

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

February 10, 2014

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge

Dear Families,

For obvious reasons, most elementary students have to wait for years to have an exchange experience. Thanks to Mrs. Raymond, children at Coolidge had the chance to host international visitors just last week.

Last Tuesday, six Chinese students from Shanghai (and for a brief time, their parents) visited our third grade classrooms. Did you know that Shanghai's population is three times that of New York?! Not surprisingly, the subsequent discussions in classrooms were wonderful. However, the learning extended well beyond the walls of individual rooms.

Mrs. Raymond visited several classes to teach about the Chinese New Year, and displayed related objects throughout the school. Loconsolo taught our students to create art using Chinese techniques. Ms. Fallis used the visit to showcase the skills our fourth grade chorus has been working on. Mrs. Fox highlighted titles from our Media collection that feature China. Unfortunately, the visit made shorter by the snow day. (From what I understand, the weather was a thrill, too.) All in all, even the short stay provided a nice opportunity for our students to see our school and their learning experiences in a new light. I am proud to say that our school community made a powerful, positive impression.

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 4 & 5	Grade 3 welcomes visitors from China
February 12	Young Audience's <i>Abraham Lincoln</i> visits
February 14	School Store
February 17-21	Winter Break
February 28	School Store

Please note MCAS dates for third and fourth grade:

March 18	Gr. 4 long Comp
March 19 & 20	Gr. 3 ELA
March 25 & 26	Gr. 4 ELA
May 6 & 7	Gr. 3 Math
May 13 & 14	Gr. 4 Math

FOOD DRIVE - Time is running out, and donations for the Worcester County Food Bank should be brought into school by Wednesday, February 12th.

Help your child's class reach their goal, and thank you for helping us help others! ~ Fourth Grade Student Council

FROM THE NURSE:

1. Dear Kindergarten Parents,

Today in your child's blue Communications Folder you will find a white paper with the Worcester State University logo on it. It explains that on Friday February 28th Audiology students from Worcester State University will be at Coolidge School to perform hearing screening with all the Kindergarten students. This paper is the permission slip that each child must have filled out and signed to participate. Please return it to your child's teacher on or before February 24, 2014. If you decide not to have your child tested by the students I will be screening both vision and hearing the week of March 3rd.

If you have any questions please call me at 508-841-8887.

Thank you,

Mrs. Zimmermann RN

2. February is National Children's Dental Health Month. It's a good time to remind parents that developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits will help give your children a start on a lifetime of healthy teeth.

Start cleaning your child's teeth early. As soon as the first tooth appears begin cleaning with a clean, damp cloth every day. As more teeth appear use a small, soft toothbrush. Start using toothpaste with fluoride when your child is two years old or when your doctor recommends it. Use only a small amount of toothpaste, the size of a pea. Brush your child's teeth twice a day till they have the ability to handle the brush alone. Have your child spit out the toothpaste and rinse well.

Tooth decay affects children more than any other chronic infectious disease. Untreated tooth decay can cause pain and infection. This could lead to problems eating, speaking, playing and learning. Tooth decay is preventable; the combination of dental sealants and fluoride can help eliminate tooth decay.

For more information look at MouthHealthy.org or www.cdc.gov/OralHealth

FYI

1. Parents, please help our Special Education Department to understand our

strengths and needs by reflecting on your family's experiences on this online survey: <http://www.maparentcohort2.com>

The results of the survey will assist us in strengthening our communication and partnership with parents. The survey closes on March 21, 2014.

2. please remember that due to allergies we WILL NOT ALLOW students to share food or candy for special days, students who wish to pass out valentines next week should bring a card for everyone. And a special snack for themselves!
3. **Save the date! The Shrewsbury Enrichment summer program for grades K - 4 and the Middle School Summer Extensions program for grades 5 - 8 will begin registrations on Wednesday, February 12th. Access to the course catalogs will be available on Monday, February 10th through the Shrewsbury Public Schools district website. Please watch for further announcements through the Shrewsbury Public Schools Community Bulletin and communications from the elementary and middle schools.**
4. Please remember to practice safe driving habits in our parking lots. Going slow in the pick up and drop off line and taking that "extra look" is really important, especially in the winter season. Your care for our students and staff is appreciated.

Fourth Grade Completion Ceremony Planning Meeting - We are looking for fourth grade parents who are interesting in helping with the Fourth Grade Completion Ceremony in June. There will be an informational meeting on **MONDAY February 24th at 3:30** in Miss Finneran's Room.